IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide ~~of claim 1~~ selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,

b) a polypeptide comprising a naturally occurring amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,

c) a biologically active fragment of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and

d) an immunogenic fragment of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

4. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide of claim 3 encoding a polypeptide ~~of claim 2~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

5. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide of claim 4 ~~having a~~ comprising the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

6. (Original) A recombinant polynucleotide comprising a promoter sequence operably linked to a polynucleotide of claim 3.

7. (Original) A cell transformed with a recombinant polynucleotide of claim 6.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide of claim 3 ~~of claim 1~~, the method comprising:

a) culturing a cell under conditions suitable for expression of the polypeptide, wherein said cell is transformed with a recombinant polynucleotide, and said recombinant

polynucleotide comprises a promoter sequence operably linked to a polynucleotide of claim 3 ~~encoding the polypeptide of claim 1~~, and

b) recovering the polypeptide so expressed.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide ~~has an~~ comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polynucleotide comprising [[a]] the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

b) a polynucleotide comprising a naturally occurring polynucleotide sequence at least 90% identical to [[a]] the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

c) a polynucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide of a),

d) a polynucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide of b), and

e) an RNA equivalent of a)-d).

13. (Original) An isolated polynucleotide comprising at least 60 contiguous nucleotides of a polynucleotide of claim 12.

14. (Original) A method of detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:

a) hybridizing the sample with a probe comprising at least 20 contiguous nucleotides comprising a sequence complementary to said target polynucleotide in the sample, and which probe specifically hybridizes to said target polynucleotide, under conditions whereby a hybridization complex is formed between said probe and said target polynucleotide or fragments thereof, and

b) detecting the presence or absence of said hybridization complex, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

15. (Original) A method of claim 14, wherein the probe comprises at least 60 contiguous nucleotides.

16. (Original) A method of detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:

a) amplifying said target polynucleotide or fragment thereof using polymerase chain reaction amplification, and

b) detecting the presence or absence of said amplified target polynucleotide or fragment thereof, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

17-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) A method of screening a compound for effectiveness in altering expression of a target polynucleotide, wherein said target polynucleotide comprises a sequence of claim 5, the method comprising:

a) exposing a sample comprising the target polynucleotide to a compound, under conditions suitable for the expression of the target polynucleotide,

b) detecting altered expression of the target polynucleotide, and

c) comparing the expression of the target polynucleotide in the presence of varying amounts of the compound and in the absence of the compound.

29. (Original) A method of assessing toxicity of a test compound, the method comprising:

a) treating a biological sample containing nucleic acids with the test compound,

b) hybridizing the nucleic acids of the treated biological sample with a probe comprising at least 20 contiguous nucleotides of a polynucleotide of claim 12 under conditions whereby a specific hybridization complex is formed between said probe and a target polynucleotide in the biological sample, said target polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12 or fragment thereof,

c) quantifying the amount of hybridization complex, and

d) comparing the amount of hybridization complex in the treated biological sample with the amount of hybridization complex in an untreated biological sample, wherein a difference in the amount of hybridization complex in the treated biological sample is indicative of toxicity of the test compound.

30-57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) A microarray wherein at least one element of the microarray is a polynucleotide of claim 13.

59. (New) A method of generating a transcript image of a sample which contains polynucleotides, the method comprising:

a) labeling the polynucleotides of the sample,

b) contacting the elements of the microarray of claim 58 with the labeled polynucleotides of the sample under conditions suitable for the formation of a hybridization complex, and

c) quantifying the expression of the polynucleotides in the sample.

60. (New) An array comprising different nucleotide molecules affixed in distinct physical locations on a solid substrate, wherein at least one of said nucleotide molecules comprises a first oligonucleotide or polynucleotide sequence specifically hybridizable with at least 30 contiguous nucleotides of a target polynucleotide, and wherein said target polynucleotide is a polynucleotide of claim 12.

61. (New) An array of claim 60, wherein said first oligonucleotide or polynucleotide sequence is completely complementary to at least 30 contiguous nucleotides of said target polynucleotide.

62. (New) An array of claim 60, wherein said first oligonucleotide or polynucleotide sequence is completely complementary to at least 60 contiguous nucleotides of said target polynucleotide.

63. (New) An array of claim 60, wherein said first oligonucleotide or polynucleotide sequence is completely complementary to said target polynucleotide.